



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2013

No. 164

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father, be with us not only in great moments of experience but also during mundane and common tasks of life. Through the power of Your Spirit, may our Senators mount up with wings like eagles, running without weariness and walking without fainting. Lord, give them the wisdom to be patient with others, ever lenient to their faults and ever prompt to appreciate their virtues. Rule in their hearts, keeping them from sin and sustaining their loved ones in all of their tomorrows. Surround them with the shield of Your favor, as You provide them with a future and a hope.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 91, S. 1197.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 91, S. 1197, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military con-

struction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

DRUG QUALITY AND SECURITY ACT

Pending:

Reid amendment No. 2033, to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 2034 (to amendment No. 2033), of a perfecting nature.

Reid motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, with instructions, Reid amendment No. 2035, to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 2036 (to (the instructions) amendment No. 2035), of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 2037 (to amendment No. 2036), of a perfecting nature.

Mr. REID. I now ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion with respect to H.R. 3204, the pharmaceutical drug compounding bill, be withdrawn, the pending motion and amendments be withdrawn, and the Senate vote on the passage of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3204) was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

ANIMAL DRUG COMPOUNDING

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I wish to thank Mr. ALEXANDER for his work on this legislation. I am happy to see that all sides have been able to reach an agreement on clarifying the oversight of large compounding facilities, while also ensuring that patients continue to have access to customized medicines at their local pharmacy. I am grateful to the chairman and ranking member for clarifying that the intent of this legislation is to maintain current law with respect to patients' and physicians' access to drugs compounded for office use. I am also very encouraged that we are finally moving forward on creating a uniform national standard for the pharmaceutical supply chain, which will allow patients to have more confidence in the safety of the drugs they receive while also ensuring that national distributors and

third-party logistics providers do not face the burden of dealing with a confusing and inconsistent patchwork of State-by-State rules.

I would like to take a moment to discuss an issue that is not directly addressed in the bill before us. I have heard from my constituents that there are serious problems, similar to the ones we are seeking to address today, with the inappropriate compounding of animal drugs. As with human drugs, mass production of compounded animal drugs with inadequate safety standards has resulted in suffering and death.

While the compounding of animal drugs according to a prescription from a veterinarian for an individual patient is legal, necessary, and appropriate, it is important to draw a line between compounding and manufacturing. I am especially troubled by reports that some entities characterizing themselves as "compounding pharmacies" are producing large quantities of animal drugs that are essentially copies of FDA-approved products. They are then mass-marketed as cheap alternatives to approved products, without being subject to any of the safety requirements and quality controls that manufacturers must comply with.

As with human drugs, the FDA has had mixed success in taking enforcement action against questionable or abusive animal drug compounding practices. While I understand that animal drug compounding raises complicated issues that the bill before us does not address, I want to make it clear that the absence of animal drug provisions in this legislation does not constitute an endorsement of the status quo. I hope that in the months ahead, Congress can begin to investigate the issues surrounding animal drug compounding in more depth, with an eye toward spurring the FDA to make this a higher enforcement priority.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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